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WASHINGTON POST 7 October 1984

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Politicization of the CIA

Is the CIA being politicized?

Bob Woodward ["Aides Dispute CIA's 'Near-Destruction'," Sept. 28] quoted CIA Director William J. Casey as saying in a letter to Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan, "You have my assurance that I will not tolerate any attempt to politicize the agency or its work, or use the fact of its revitalization for partisan political purposes."

Elsewhere in The Post on Sept. 28,

Joanne Omang ["Analyst Says He Quit CIA When Casey Altered his Report to Support Policy"] reports that CIA's highly respected top Latin American analyst, John Horton, resigned rather

than alter an intelligence estimate to meet Mr. Casey's demand that the estimate support administration policy.

Sen. Moynihan and Sen. Barry Goldwater have joined forces to introduce legislation that would require that future CIA directors and deputy directors be intelligence professionals. This is an excellent move. The two senators should go further. They should immediately call in Mr. Casey and ask him about Mr. Horton's accusation. We may find the wrong man resigned.

CHARLES TABER

Chevy Chase

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